Amendments to the Claims

1-43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) A method for managing power in a battery-operated device, comprising:

allowing the device to operate until a battery failure occurs, the battery failure comprising a condition in which the battery's charge drops below a level required to operate the device;

determining, upon an attempt to restart the device after the battery failure, that the battery has insufficient charge to support further operation of the device;

shutting down the device properly using residual charge in the battery, the battery having recovered sufficiently during a brief period between the battery failure and the attempt to restart the device to support shutting down the device properly; and

disabling further operation of the device until the battery has been recharged or replaced.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising:

starting up the device and ensuring the integrity of a file system in the device after the battery has been recharged or replaced.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein ensuring the integrity of a file system in the device comprises:

detecting an incomplete file-allocation-table entry;

deleting the incomplete file-allocation-table entry; and

outputting an error message.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the device comprises a digital camera.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein shutting down the device properly comprises retracting a lens of the digital camera.

49. (Previously Presented) A device, comprising:

a battery;

a circuit to detect a status of the battery, and

control logic configured to carry out a method comprising:

allowing the device to operate until a battery failure occurs, the battery failure comprising a condition in which the battery's charge drops below a level required to operate the device;

determining, upon an attempt to restart the device after the battery failure, that the status of the battery is unfavorable to continued operation of the device;

shutting down the device properly using residual charge in the battery, the battery having recovered sufficiently during a brief period between the battery failure and the attempt to restart the device to support shutting down the device properly; and

disabling further operation of the device until the battery has been recharged or replaced.

50. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 49, wherein the method further comprises starting up the device and ensuring the integrity of a file system in the device after the battery has been recharged or replaced.

51. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 50, wherein ensuring the integrity of a file system in the device comprises:

detecting an incomplete file-allocation-table entry;

deleting the incomplete file-allocation-table entry; and

outputting an error message.

52. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 49, wherein the device comprises a digital camera.

53. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 52, wherein shutting down the device properly comprises retracting a lens of the digital camera.

54. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 49, wherein the control logic comprises a shutdown bit to detect when the device has experienced a battery failure.

55. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 49, wherein the control logic comprises a disable bit to prevent the device from being operated when the status of the battery is unfavorable.

56. (Previously Presented) A device, comprising:

a battery;

means for detecting a status of the battery; and

means for carrying out a method comprising:

allowing the device to operate until a battery failure occurs, the battery failure comprising a condition in which the battery's charge drops below a level required to operate the device;

determining, upon an attempt to restart the device after the battery failure, that the status of the battery is unfavorable to continued operation of the device;

shutting down the device properly using residual charge in the battery, the battery having recovered sufficiently during a brief period between the battery failure and the attempt to restart the device to support shutting down the device properly; and

disabling further operation of the device until the battery has been recharged or replaced.

57. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 56, wherein the method further comprises starting up the device and ensuring the integrity of a file system in the device after the battery has been recharged or replaced.

58. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 57, wherein ensuring the integrity of a file system in the device comprises:

detecting an incomplete file-allocation-table entry;

deleting the incomplete file-allocation-table entry; and

outputting an error message.